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JOHN MITCHELL, JR., - - - EDITOR

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SATURDAY, - - - JAN. 4, 1890.

EIGHTEEN COLORED MEN LYNCHED.

The terrible account, which we publish in another column of the killing of the colored men at Jessup, Ga., on Dec. 25th, and the uncalld for whipping of defenceless colored women rivals the historical reports of the Days of the Inquisition. How quick was the coroner's jury to charge the colored men with the murder of white men, and to announce to the world that innocent colored men came to their death at the hands of parties unknown. Couple this with the news from South Carolina which report the breaking into Barnwell County jail last Saturday morning, between one and two o'clock and the taking therefrom of eight colored men. They were carried to the skirts of woods and shot to pieces. So horrible is the report that a circular, apparently in justification has been issued by "the best citizens of the community." You may endeavor to explain why savage tribes are led to deeds of atrocity, but in a hell hole like South Carolina, no such explanation is needed. There is not a scintilla of evidence according to their own statements to connect at least six of the persons with the crime. Yet they have been launched into eternity. What steps will be taken by the Governor and local authorities of Georgia and South Carolina? Will a gibbet be built within the confines of either state? Let the record of the past answer. So fiendish were these outrages, so contrary to all that go to make up fair play that the *Chronicle*, a Democratic journal says:

"White men who mob and shoot Negroes accused of crime violate the laws of God and their country. They are guilty of murder, and however revolting the crime supposed to have been committed by these upon whom their vengeance is wreaked the men who take the law in their own hands, who usurp the places of judge and jury, are co-spirators against the peace and integrity of the State and enemies to the most sacred rights and the only safeguard of the liberties of the people. The shooting of Negroes, whether guilty or not guilty, by bands of lawless white men is brutal. It is a disgrace to our civilization and a scandal and shame to any community that tolerates or perpetrates such acts of lawlessness, inhumanity, and crime."

Could the language be stronger? Examine it and see how it compares with that used by us. *Lynch law must go!* Right grandly that journal vindicates the majesty of the law. Now what will the authorities do? The *Charleston*, (S. C.) *News and Courier* is equally as emphatic. It says:

"There was nothing brave or manly in the conduct of the mob who committed this atrocious crime against the peace and dignity of the State and inhumanity itself. It would not be difficult for several hundred men at any time to overpower eight defenceless Negroes and shoot them to death. It was no evidence of courage that a mob of masked men, knowing that they would meet with no resistance and almost certain that they would escape all responsibility for their crimes, should take eight unarmed Negroes out into the fields of morning and slay them as if they were so many beasts of the field. It speaks ill for the public sentiment of the State that a band of disguised men should seize prisoners under the care of the sheriff and put them to death without the formality of a trial."

When these journals speak in this manner the crime is bad indeed. It has been established that the men who took part in this outrageous proceedings are guilty of murder. They should be tried for their lives. Talk about a Christian community! We are glad to see that the colored people are disposed to tolerate the lawlessness no longer and that trouble is feared. So long as the colored man submits supinely he'll have these outrages to stand. Had we more martyrs and less victims of the shot-gun, the midnight assassins and the lynchers, the race as such would be better off. *Lynch law must go!*

WAS HE FULLY COMPENSATED?

The *Charlottesville Chronicle* in an article entitled "Wages" says:

"We often see it stated in the Northern papers, and even conceded by some at the South, that the Negro during his 250 years of slavery in the South, worked for the white man without compensation, and from that fallacious premise the absurd inference is drawn that in some way he has a vested and

inalienable interest in this country.

Nothing could be farther than this notion. It is true very few Negroes in the South before the war received money wages, but it by no means follows from this that they were not fully compensated for their labor."

You make a statement on one breath and on another virtually deny the previous one you had made. He adds:

"It requires very casual information and observation on the part of any one to see that the wages of even the skilled laborer of Europe or of the Northern States are barely sufficient to maintain him and his family in ordinary comfort. This, when work is steady, while when it is slack or falls him, penury almost to nakedness and starvation is his lot."

All wealth is the product of labor, and consequently all wealth belongs to labor. The money made by the plantation owners in the south from the toil of these hard worked blacks should have gone to a fair extent at least to the producer. Enough for that. Now, we assert that aside from the legitimate profit, the Negro slave was not properly paid. Aside from its being contrary to human nature as it exists in this country, for him to be properly paid we call attention to the solid logic of facts. A slave was worked from sunrise to sunset. He was given a slice of fat meat, pone of cornmeal and coffee as a rarity. He was attired in the most common material, gingham and unbleached cotton being recommended at all times and upon all occasions. He was lashed until blood ran down his back and if at all unruly washed down in salt and water as a reminder.

He was used for breeding purposes regardless of the marital tie. His offspring were sold, at times when suckling at the mother's breast. In many cases when sick, masters would give a heavy dose of castor-oil regardless of the complaint, as they said to prevent slaves from shamming. Men were often tied up by their thumbs and whipped. With this treatment and with the pay cited what honest man will say that the Negro was well paid for his labor and suffering? \$1200 per year for each man, woman and child would be small pay. In view of these facts it is amusing to say the least when we read the following:

"If this be the hard fate of the skilled laborer it is not hard to calculate what must be the condition of the ignorant day laborer like the Negro in the stern struggle for existence in sharp competition with the labor market of the world. Contrast the condition of the free Negro of to-day, with his neglected childhood, laborious manhood (such labor, if he honestly provides the necessities of life for his family, as he never dreamed of in slavery times) and his cheerless and desolate old age, with none to care for him, and often no home but the poor house, with his easy, happy-go-lucky life before the war, the laborer exacted from him during youth and middle age, and kindly protected and provided for in old age."

So you would have the skilled labor of Europe or of the Northern States brought to the condition of the Negro before the war, believing that it would be in their favor. When the skilled labor of North is at work, it is fairly paid. When a cessation of labor takes place it suffers. The laborers must have the necessities, reinforced by a few luxuries of life. If they were forced to adopt the fare of the Negro slave, they would save 50 per cent of their earnings, with no cause to grumble. Meal is 10 cents per pound. This would be as much as would be allowed one slave Negro 4 days or 4 slaves 1 day. What northern skilled mechanic could subsist on that? Yet these are the wages which you term compensation for services rendered.

We agree with the writer when he says:

"Give me again my hollow tree, A crust of bread and liberty!"

Eighteen colored men lynched in one week and nearly fifty colored women lashed until their backs are bleeding. And yet some look on and tell the colored people to stand it.

"NEGRO PROGRESS."

Our white contemporary, the *Charlottesville Chronicle*, in its issue of the 27th ult., reproduces the following:

"As it stands to day, the Negro does not claim to be the equal of the white man.

In the race he was held back 250 years, but is rapidly coming up."

RICHMOND PLANET.

It then says:

"We would ask in what way the Negro has been held back. Can any one pretend that this condition has not advanced by constant intercourse with the white race and that during slavery the Negro did not reach the highest plane of civilization of which he is capable?"

He was held back by being a slave, a creature, a thing that lived only by the grace of an egotistic lord. Denied the right to peaceably assemble, hounded by brutal slave drivers, denied the privilege of learning to read or write, shut out from the world of letters, prevented

ed from accumulating property debared the privilege of entering institutions of learning, taught that he was nothing, born inferior, incapable of advancement and cursed by the ALMIGHTY, it is not surprising that to-day standing in his majesty as a citizen, a voter and a taxpayer with sheathed sword, which shows signs of having been bathed in blood in defense of his adopted country he claims that he has been held back in the race of life and demands all of the rights and privileges accorded any other citizen. Has he advanced since his advent in this country? He has, but you deserve no credit for it. The charges we have made were the weights with which you loaded him in order to prevent the very advancement of which you now boast as one of the results of slavery.

The Negro did not advance on account of slavery but in spite of it. No reasonable man in the light of the Negro's progress since 1865 will claim that previous to that date he reached the highest plane of civilization of which he is capable. The idea is a sec. The Negro had no institutions of learning, manned by presidents and professors of color. He has them now. He had no lawyers, doctors, theologians, scientists, authors, editors, druggists, inventors, business men, accredited representatives to foreign countries, members of Congress, legislators, commonwealth attorneys, sheriffs. He has them now. He had no insurance companies, banks of deposit, newspapers, building and loan associations, fine church and society edifices, money invested in government bonds. He has them now. We had placed you on the list, sir, of ordinary Bourbons. If you insist upon your statements in view of these facts, petrification has set in and you are beyond all hope of recovery. He clips the following:

"The only claim the colored man has made is that when subjected to the same training and surrounded by similar influences he is the peer, the equal of the white man." - PLANET.

And says:

"If this be so, we ask why the Negro in Africa has not developed in all these years into a civilized being; what has he had there to hold him back but his own utter incapacity for development?"

That is easily asked and easier answered. The climate has caused his lack of progress in the ways of civilization. Persons inhabiting the Torrid Zone are sluggish, semi-civilized. No better evidence of this can be afforded than that which is a practical illustration. In Africa—the Torrid Zone—the Negro was uncivilized. In America—the Temperate Zone—he has become industrious, thrifty, accumulative, and progressive. White men who are reared in Africa, partake of the habits of the people there, become languid non-progressive, and show retrogression. A writer has well compared the progress of the Negro in one country and a lack of it in another to the planting of two good seeds—one in rich and the other in worn out soil.

There is nothing wrong with the seed, but much wrong with the poor soil; hence one seed yields a rich harvest and the other a poor one. There is nothing the matter with the Negro, but all the matter with the respective localities in which you would place him.

"How does it happen that the white race has reached its present high grade of civilization? It was not necessary for it to come into contact with a superior race."

Its surroundings were different. The white race with all of its boasted glory were servile slaves for 2000 years and a part of it is virtually that way now. Its present condition was by slow stages reinforced by favorable climatic influences. In fact the proud Anglo-Saxon blood of which you boast did come by contact with a superior portion of the white race.

The Britains were subjugated by the Angles and the Saxons. And later they were brought in contact with the inhabitants of the Roman Empire. The depravity of men accredited to your race is a stigma upon humanity, a blot upon the age in which we live. No Negro, either individually or collectively has sunk lower. When your superiority is put to a test at the college or elsewhere, the Negro explodes the theory like dynamite a torpedo shell. MORGAN at Harvard College and COOK at Cornell University are living examples of the capability of the Negro. In your blind desire, sir, to establish prejudiced theories, you have passed by the mountain of facts which, like BANQUOS' ghost will

not down at your bidding. Well said the poet:

"The blind can see, the slave is lord, So blind and round we run And for the wrong is proved to be wrong An ever is justice done."

GEORGE FITZHUGH LEE, at 12

o'clock last Wednesday passed into history as an ex-Governor. His four years administration has given general satisfaction. While he has at times made mistakes, we are led to believe that it was an error of the head rather than that of the heart. His speeches abroad were fitting and not in accord with the spirit of the age, but his actions at home won for him a host of friends and among thousands, regardless of race or color he is termed "Kind-hearted, generous, affable to all with a soldierly bearing, enforced by all these noble qualities, he has enjoyed a degree of popularity among all classes before equalled in the history of the State. Barring the one provision in the Virginia Constitution and placed in the gubernatorial chair."

He has been re-elected Governor by a large majority ever vouchsafed any candidate. May his successor prove as worthy and popular as the Chief Executive of the four years past.

Colored men stand up and be counted. Defend your homes against the midnight assassin and above all, protect your women.

One might as well die with the agony as with the fever. It's death all the same.

Did President HARRISON hear the echoes of the shot guns in South Carolina and Georgia? Did he shriek of the women, the screams of the men enter his private chamber as the lash was plied to their backs, and blood spurted in a continuous stream? We hope it did.

Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia and South Carolina have joined hands in the murderous carnival. And this is Mr. GRADY's "new south." In our opinion it is the old one with new breeches.

The address to the people of South Carolina by the colored citizens of that state relative to the uncalld for lynching of eight colored men, by Gov. RICHARDSON. He addressed the solemnity of his oath of office and offered \$200 reward for each and every one of the guilty parties. This looks like business and will receive the hearty support of right thinking people everywhere.

Now let who will read the reports of these murderous orgies and say Congress should take no steps for the protection of American citizens at home. If there is no precedent for it, let us make it.

We have received a copy of the *Evening Standard* of Melbourne, Australia, published Oct. 19th, '89 in which an interview with Mr. F. J. Loulin, manager of the Fisk Jubilee Singers appears.

"The Springfield Republican's head is level. The Negro colonization scheme is absurd. The Negro is not going to migrate North, East, or West to any extent. He is in the South to stay, and knows on which side his bread is buttered."

Yes and on which side his head is cut red.

his dearly loves the Negro, the public demonstrations held in that city to protest the residence of a single Negro in one of the Philadelphia hotels.

a great many Democrats in that city. Your assertions simply go to prove that they are the same north or south. Scratch a Bourbon and you find a Democrat.

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